



U.S. Department of Justice
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NEWS RELEASE

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Oct. 6, 2004

TOPEKA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO PRODUCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

TOPEKA, KAN. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Stephen W. Grimm**, 28, Topeka, pleaded guilty Oct. 6, 2004, before U.S. District Judge Richard D. Rogers.

Grimm pleaded guilty to one count of using a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a video on June 29, 2002; one count of possessing child pornography obtained by computer on Sept. 25, 2002; and one count of forfeiture of the computer, VCR player, and video recorder used to commit these offenses, all in Shawnee County, Kansas.

In his plea, Grimm admitted that on June 29, 2002 he lured a 6-year-old boy to his house with the offer of a Mountain Dew drink and instructed the boy on how to perform sexual acts, which Grimm taped with an 8 mm video camera. Grimm copied the tape to VHS video. Grimm admitted that the camera and tapes had traveled in interstate commerce. Grimm also uploaded eight still pictures from the videotape to his computer, which had traveled in interstate commerce.

In his plea, Grimm also admitted that he possessed more than 1,500 images of child pornography and approximately 142 movie files containing child pornography involving prepubescent minors and minors under the age of 12. The images, which Grimm obtained via computer, included scenes of bestiality, bondage and violence.

Melgren said that Grimm is currently in custody and has been so since he was arrested March 11, 2004. Sentencing is set for 11 a.m. Jan. 7 before Judge Rogers.

(more)

Grimmett faces a minimum of ten years and a maximum of twenty years in federal prison, without parole, for producing child pornography and a minimum of two years and a maximum of 10 years for possessing child pornography.

The case was investigated by the Shawnee County Sheriff's Department and the U.S. Customs Service and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Tanya Treadway.